NEW IN THE
NEW YEAR

LOOKING AHEAD AT 2012

- **Wellbeing** You'll get a kick out of new ways to get fit {page 21}
- **Style** Will Kanye be fashion mogul? {page 20}

metro®

PHILADELPHIA
Wednesday, January 11, 2012

#1 DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

Max 48°
Min 41°

Condos. Auction

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ 10 Rittenhouse was bought by the financial lender behind the building's construction, which finished after the housing boom already went bust.

Ritzy high-rise sold at city auction

After much court wrangling, ownership of real estate orphan 10 Rittenhouse, was bought at a city sheriff's auction yesterday. The new owners declined comment, but some already living in the mostly empty building are apprehensive about future sales. One expert said the condos' prices could shake up the market. {page 02}

Throats slashed in gruesome murders

- Man, woman and two dogs stabbed to death inside Dickinson Street home
- No leads or motive yet in 'brutal' killings
- Residents shaken by violence {page 04}

News

Mitt makes history with win

- Nonincumbent GOP hopeful wins first two contests {page 07}

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Apartment fire kills brother and sister

TACONY. Two teenagers, a boy and his older sister, were killed in an early-morning fire yesterday that also reportedly left their mother in extremely critical condition after firefighters pulled her from the blaze.

Firefighters responded to a second-floor apartment over a barber shop on Torresdale Avenue around 4:50 a.m. The unidentified 19-year-old woman and her 13-year-old brother were both pronounced dead at the scene. A woman was taken to Aria Torresdale Hospital.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. Firefighters were initially told the entire structure was empty, according to reports, but soon learned the three family members remained inside.

Reports indicated initially that the home had no smoke detectors and no gas, although a department spokesman could not immediately confirm that.

▶ The scene yesterday

The two deaths mark the first deaths from a fire in 2012. Last year, 32 people in Philadelphia died as a result of fire.

METRO/SDL

High-end condo market shakeup?

Future sales at 10 Rittenhouse could set Center City condo prices Fears among some current tenants include possible private auction by new owner

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ 10 Rittenhouse was sold at auction yesterday.

One of Center City's highest-profile real estate soap operas took a turn toward a final act yesterday after it was bought outright during a sheriff's auction.

In the latest twist for 10 Rittenhouse, the lender for the 33-story high-rise overlooking Rittenhouse Square, iStar Financial, bought 129 units after a drawn-out court case that saw the builder go into bankruptcy and eventually default. All along, the luxury building has struggled to find buyers.

The company would not comment on the sheriff's sale or say what it plans to do with the units. Real estate expert Kevin Gillen expects the group to either find a professional sales team or turn to a professional auctioneer.

"An auction that moves these units at significant discounts could have the rippling effect of resetting the overall price level for the Center City condo market," said Gillen, vice president of Econsult Corp.

A man, who only identified himself as Tony, said he has two friends who live in the building.

"There's gonna be a real auction and the people who live there are gonna be upset. In fact, I know they're upset," he said.

SOLOMON D. LEACH
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Recent auctions

PHILADELPHIA. 10 Rittenhouse would be the latest high-profile building to unload units though auction.

The Murano and the Phoenix have unloaded dozens of unoccupied units in the last two years through privately-run sell-offs. The unfinished units in 10 Rittenhouse, developed by ARC Wheeler, reportedly range in price from $600,000 to $15 million.

METRO/SDL

▶ The dog died after eating sausages.

Pitt bull poisoned to death

NEW JERSEY. Two-year-old pit bull Goo Boo died yesterday after eating drug-stuffed sausages thrown onto the Middle Township property of his owner, Duane Pitt, the Cape May County Herald reported. Pitt told the paper that he suspected someone tried to hurt his dogs in the past, but this was the first time he had evidence. METRO/AW

Woman urinates, kicks cop

UNIONTOWN. A drunk passenger allegedly exposed herself to a state trooper during a traffic stop, urinated on the ground, screamed profanities and kicked him, according to court documents.

Deshaunte Douglas, 24, was subdued by a stun gun. She is charged with aggravated assault and indecent exposure. METRO

In the news

17

Years on the Penn State football staff for Jay Paterno, son of legendary coach JoePa, before he learned yesterday that he would no longer be part of the program. Incoming coach Bill O'Brien said in a statement that the Paterno son would not be on his staff. METRO

In the news

Rainy day for weatherman

Fox 29 meteorologist and quasi-celebrity John Bolaris, who got himself in hot water last month for an interview in Playboy, won't be returning on-air. A station spokeswoman confirmed yesterday that "we mutually agreed that it was time to part ways." METRO

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Kensington murder cold case cracked

KENSINGTON. Authorities have charged a 40-year-old man with killing a young woman in December 2010.

William Walton, of the 900 block of North 45th Street, is accused of killing 22-year-old Allison Edwards. Investigators initially thought the case was linked to the Kensington strangler, but later determined it was not part of the pattern.

Edwards was found dead in an apartment at Erie Avenue and Glendale Street. METRO

Smell of gas leads to discovery of 'brutal' double murder scene

Two bizarre throat-slashing murders inside home near Passyunk Avenue shakes neighborhood ◗ Cops still unsure of motive ◗ Two dogs also killed in home

The smell of gas coming from a South Philadelphia apartment led police to a grisly crime scene.

Investigators responded to a first floor apartment on the 1300 block of Dickinson Street shortly before 10 a.m. and found the bodies of a white man, 78, who police believe to be the tenant, in the bathroom and a black woman in her 40s in the living room. Both had their throats slit and suffered from multiple stab wounds. Two small Yorkie-type dogs were also stabbed to death.

The killer turned on the gas "probably to block the tracks and blow up the place," said homicide Capt. James Clark. "It was an extremely brutal, brutal killing. You had an elderly man, a female and two little dogs brutally, brutally murdered."

Quoted

"We're a neighborhood, so we recognize someone who doesn't live here. Even the mailman, he doesn't even know who [the tenants] are."
VALERIE IZZEI, NEIGHBOR

Neighbors gathered at the scene said that the house was well known in the neighborhood for shady activity, though none of the longtime residents, even those from his own building, knew the tenant. "I see from my window people standing here at 2 o'clock in the morning," said Hadia Connor, who has been living in the third floor apartment for nine years.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

RICARD LABNA/METRO

▶ Detectives and forensics officers spent all day inside the Dickinson Street apartment.

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Opinion

ROB WONDERLING
PRESIDENT AND CEO, GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

R&D IS IN OUR GENETIC MAKEUP

The Human Genome Project was a 13-year effort to identify all of the approximately 20,000 to 25,000 genes in our human DNA. Genes carry information for making all the proteins required by all organisms. These proteins determine, among other things, how the organism looks and how well it fights infection.

At the University City Science Center, an incubator company called BioNano Genomics is working to make the full genome more accessible to clinicians and researchers to help further improve personalized medicine. This in turn may lead to new and more targeted ways to treat illnesses, among other wonders.

In Princeton, N.J., a company called Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory develops and uses mathematical models and computer simulations to improve understanding and predictions of the atmosphere, the oceans and the climate. This could help us better predict catastrophic climate events and save lives.

These exciting and cutting edge organizations are just two examples of why the Greater Philadelphia region is among the nation's top five research and development centers, according to a new study released by Select Greater Philadelphia.

In 2011, Select conducted the region's first survey of research and development in order to identify the organizations that are performing R&D and determine the types and fields of R&D activities. R&D is a key element in regional economic growth, leading to breakthroughs, new products, company formation and expansion, and attracting venture capital.

According to the findings of the study, R&D spending is a higher percentage of the regional economy than it is of the U.S. economy. The private sector in particular, excluding colleges and universities, is 12 percentage points higher in this region than the U.S.

Quoted

"These exciting and cutting edge organizations are just two examples of why the Greater Philadelphia region is among the nation's top five research and development centers."
WONDERLING

Got a story?

If you have a good R&D story to tell, e-mail me at rwonderling@greaterphilachamber.com. Let's get the word out about all the new and innovative thinking going on in the Greater Philadelphia region.

The report titled "Research & Development in the Greater Philadelphia Region" shows that total R&D spending in the region in 2008 was just under $10.5 billion or 2.9 percent of the region's Gross Regional Product. Greater Philadelphia's private sectors made up the bulk of this spending with a total of $8.9 billion, followed by colleges and universities which accounted for more than $1.3 billion in spending. Federal government facilities accounted for virtually all of the remaining expenditures, with only a small amount of R&D performed by state governments.

Select's Vice President of Research Phil Hopkins, aptly noted that research and development leads to innovation and innovation leads to economic growth. In fact, hundreds of entities across Greater Philadelphia are actively engaged in R&D, creating the next generation of extraordinary products, technologies and services.

*– **Rob Wondering** is President and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. His column runs the second Wednesday each month.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

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Romney's historic win

Mitt strikes election gold with his second win of the primary season
Paul gets second, Huntsman third and Gingrich fourth
Obama leads

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has led a field of six GOP candidates in the polls by double digits.

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney won the New Hampshire Republican U.S. presidential primary yesterday by a comfortable margin — his second straight victory in the race to become his party's choice to challenge Democratic President Barack Obama on Nov. 6.

Based on early returns with about 10 percent of the vote counted, U.S. television networks declared Romney the victor. With about 15 percent of the vote counted, the networks said Romney had won 36 percent of the vote with Congressman Ron Paul in second with 25 percent.

The New Hampshire primary is the second contest in the state-by-state battle for the Republican presidential nomination to face Obama. Romney narrowly won the first contest, the Iowa caucuses, on Jan. 3.

The former investment firm chief scored the clear victory despite rivals' fierce 11th-hour attacks painting him as a heartless corporate raider who enjoys cutting jobs. Romney's stint as a relatively moderate governor of neighboring Massachusetts has also sparked skepticism from conservatives.

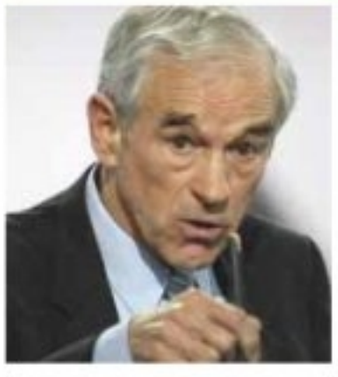
Voters responded to Romney's claim that his private sector experience would help him galvanize the weak U.S. economy.

"I was looking for someone who is smart, knows our country, knows the financial system and how to get the country moving again with jobs," said Eddie Carr, a 77-year-old bus driver who voted for Romney. "I think it was right to vote for him. I think he can get the country going." REUTERS

Double victory

Romney became the first Republican who is not an incumbent president to win the first two early voting states, after his slim eight-vote victory over former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum a week ago in the Iowa caucus.

What about Paul?



Ron Paul, a congressman from Texas known for his libertarian views, beat out Jon Huntsman, a moderate former U.S. ambassador to China, for second place in New Hampshire, the small New England state known for its outsized role in presidential campaigns.

▶ Huntsman had about 17 percent of the vote.

Obama maintains lead in polls

EMMANUEL DUNAND/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Supporters rally outside a polling station in New Hampshire.

MANCHESTER, N.H. Mitt Romney has sailed farther ahead of rival Republican candidates nationally but still trails President Barack Obama in the White House race, according to a Reuters-Ipsos poll yesterday.

The poll suggests Romney has consolidated support among Republicans since winning the first nominating contest in Iowa by a slim margin last week.

Romney's closest rival in the national poll was Newt Gingrich, the former speaker of the House of Representatives, who had 20 percent support, down from 28 percent in December.

Obama, a Democrat, leads all of the Republican candidates in the race. Better economic data have helped him stay ahead of Romney in the past two months. The latest survey shows him leading by 48 percent to 43 percent.

"Obama's standing has started to improve parallel with the economy," pollster Chris Jackson said. REUTERS

30%
Number of Republicans in the Ipsos poll who would vote for Romney, compared to 18 percent a month ago.

Navy chief: Iran 'keeps me awake at night'

WASHINGTON. The chief of the U.S. Navy acknowledged yesterday that preparing for a potential conflict in the Strait of Hormuz is the kind of thing he loses sleep over.

"If you ask me what keeps me awake at night, it's the Strait of Hormuz and the business going on in the Arabian Gulf," said Adm. Jonathan Greenert, who became the chief of naval operations in September.

The comments by Greenert follow threats by Iran last month to shut off the Strait of Hormuz — the world's most important oil shipping lane — if new U.S. and EU sanctions over its nuclear program halted Iranian oil exports. REUTERS

▶ An Iranian Navy boat

Syrian ruler vows iron fist

BEIRUT. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad vowed yesterday to strike "terrorists" with an iron fist and derided Arab League efforts to halt violence in a 10-month-old revolt against his rule.

The president's 100-minute speech, his first public address since June, contained some promises of reform, but no sweeping concessions that might placate an opposition now determined to end more than four decades of domination by the Assad family. REUTERS

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Public lines up for new low-cost appliance that slashes heat bills

Amish craftsmen vow to keep up with rush for brand-new Hybrid-Thermic™ 'Miracle Heater' that uses about the same energy as a coffee maker per hour, so just plug it in and never be cold again

Everyone hates high heat bills. But we're all sick and tired of turning the thermostat down and freezing our buns off.

That's why Sears knew they had a home-run on their hands with the first-ever low-cost appliance with Hybrid-Thermic™ heat technology. And no other heater anywhere has it.

The brand-new portable L.E.D. Heat Surge HT sips so little energy, you can run it for a full 12-hour day or night for just about a buck.

This modern marvel, hailed as the zone heating 'Miracle Heater,' caused such a frenzy at Sears stores, one shopper refused to leave until she got one. Since there were none in stock, store managers were forced to hand over the store's only floor model, against store policy.

So today, immediate action is being taken to give more people, more ways to get them.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m., today's readers are allowed to phone in or snag one online. Heat Surge even posted a 2-Day Double Coupon which has been reprinted for today's readers to use.

By using this coupon, everyone who calls is being rewarded with $227. That makes this remarkable new home appliance a real steal at just $299. Since this is a Double Coupon Deal, it not only gives you an extraordinary discount, but also entitles you to free shipping and handling, totaling $227 off. So now everyone has a fair shot at getting one.

■ **GOTTA HAVE ONE:** People are flocking to Sears stores everywhere to get the brand-new Heat Surge HT. An eager crowd remained respectful as Jonas Miller stages a promotional delivery event. "I heard so much about the Amish Miracle Heater but couldn't find where to get one," an excited Mary Straughn said. That's why a National Appliance Hotline has been set up for today's readers who can't rush out to get one. Readers who call the Hotline at 1-800-618-8510 will get free delivery with an extraordinary 2-Day Double Coupon that has been reprinted to the right.

"Folks are saving money everywhere by zone heating with the new Heat Surge HT," said Kris Rumel, the company's analyst tracking the impact Heat Surge is having on consumer heat bills.

This all started when Sears wanted the world-famous 'Amish Miracle Heater' that everyone was asking for.

The shy but now famous Amish craftsman said Sears made the most sense. "I'd reckon they're the oldest and most trusted in the country," one of the Amish craftsmen known as Melvin said.

"We've been saving folks money, big money. And we know it because we're hearin' about it," he said.

"They know about our quality. No particle board, just real wood. Fully-

assembled cabinets by our hands and we're making them right here in the good ole USA," Melvin said.

Director of Technology David Martin explained, "The Heat Surge HT is a revolutionary appliance that can easily roll from room to room. But we didn't want it to look like some metal box that just sits there. So we turned to our Amish craftsmen and now each one is made to look like a sleek, slim fireplace that has no real flames."

"The peaceful flicker of the '*Fireless* Flame' is so beautiful, everyone thinks it's real, but it's totally safe to the touch. All you do is just plug it in," Martin said.

People from Maine to Mississippi and even Florida and Arizona are flocking to get them because they are finally able to give their central heat a rest during this long, frigid winter.

According to the avalanche of consumer reviews, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "it saves money," "looks beautiful," and "keeps you warm head to toe, floor to ceiling." And the word is getting out. That's why people are clamoring to get them.

But Martin said right now the real problem is making sure the Amish craftsmen can keep up with the lingering winter rush.

That's why the Double Coupon expires in two days.

So for readers hoping to get the new Heat Surge for themselves and take care of gifts for others, there is good news.

You can use the 2-Day Double Coupon more than once. But there is a catch. You can only get away with it for the next two days from the date of today's publication by calling the National Appliance Center at 1-800-618-8510.

Then, when it arrives, you'll be rushing to turn down that thermostat. Just plug it in, watch your heat bills hit rock bottom, and never be cold again. ■

■ **BLANKET FREE COMFORT:** "We just couldn't take another winter of always being cold. And we also got one for the kids to help them with their heat bills," Julia White said.

■ **SAFE:** The beautiful L.E.D. *Fireless* Flame on the new Heat Surge HT is so stunning, everyone thinks it's real, but it's actually safe to the touch. It's so safe, it's where the kids will play & the pets will sleep.

How It Works: You get 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59° with the first-ever Heat Surge HT

■ **MODERN MARVEL:** The revolutionary Heat Surge HT micro-furnace fits in any room because it's packed inside a small Amish-built cabinet that measures just 25" high, 18" wide, and 12" deep.

This is the revolutionary Heat Surge HT, the first-ever appliance with Hybrid-Thermic™ heat technology. Hybrid-Thermic heat technology is an engineering genius so advanced, it actually uses a micro-furnace from the Coast of China and a thermal heat exchanger to perform its miracles. The thermal heat exchanger acts like the rays of the sun to heat you, the kids, the pets and everything else. The micro-furnace then heats all the surrounding air. Together, this Hybrid-Thermic heat technology warms both you and the air around you, taking care of all the cold spots. In fact, it actually produces bone-soothing heat to help you feel good.

This modern marvel uses L.E.D. technology and just a trickle of electricity and saves you money based on a U.S. average that says it uses only about 9¢ of electricity an hour on the standard setting, yet it produces up to an amazing 4,606 British Thermal Units (BTU's) on the high setting. But here's the big surprise. It's not just a metal box that belongs in a basement. The Heat Surge HT is a showpiece in any room. That's because it has the ambiance of a real fireplace, but it has no real flames. Its *Fireless* Flame® technology makes it safe to the touch.

The portable Heat Surge HT comes installed in a genuine Amish-built wood cabinet made in the heartland of Ohio. They are hand-rubbed, stained, and varnished. When it arrives, all you do is just plug it in.

■ ZONE HEATING SLASHES HEAT BILLS: *Notice how the home thermostat is turned down to 59°. The left shows the Heat Surge Hybrid-Thermic 'Miracle Heater' blanketing the whole-room with 74° of warmth.*

A Consumer Best Buy

An avalanche of unsolicited consumer reviews gives the company the reason to boast an overwhelming **Consumer 'Best Buy'** on the HeatReport.com website. Consumers should be aware of the fakes out there. This Hybrid-Thermic 'Miracle Heater' can never be found at Wal-Mart®, not at Lowe's®, not at Home Depot®, and none of the Club Stores. "Accept no imitations. If it does not have the Heat Surge name on it, it is not real Amish and it is not Hybrid-Thermic™. I repeat, if it does not have the Heat Surge name on it, you are getting ripped off," said Heat Surge Chief Compliance Officer, Bob Knowles. The Heat Surge has earned the coveted Underwriters Laboratories certification and is protected by a limited full year replacement or money back warranty and 30-day Satisfaction Guarantee.

How to get the Double Coupon Deal: Phone in to use coupon now

■ **JUST 2 DAYS REMAIN:** An extraordinary $227.00 Double Coupon Deal has been authorized for today's readers. To use the $227.00 coupon and get the Heat Surge HT for just $299, you must call the National Appliance Center at 1-800-618-8510. Because it's a Double Coupon, it entitles you to FREE Shipping and Handling, but only for those that beat the deadline.

COUPON

HEAT SURGE HT
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$227.00 off

EXPIRES 2 Days From Today's Publication Date

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On any **ONE (1) Heat Surge HT™ Hybrid-Thermic™ Miracle Heater** in Dark Oak or Light Oak finish delivered to your door with **FREE Shipping & Handling**

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TO USE THIS COUPON: Call the National Appliance Center Hotline at **1-800-618-8510** and give the operator the 2-Day Double Coupon Code shown below the barcode which also entitles you to FREE Shipping & Handling.

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myentertainment

2

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Blue Ivy Carter: Her bling lifestyle

Let's spend our time together this morning checking in on America's version of a royal birth, shall we?

I speak, of course, about **Blue Ivy Carter**, who, according to a press release from her two very famous parents, had a very "emotional and extremely peaceful" birth. And, per the release, came into the world "naturally."

You hear that? Not only was the birth peaceful, it was "extremely" so, meaning that **Beyonce** does not vomit or poop herself while bringing life into this world. I doubt she even grimaced or cursed, she is that perfect.

Another perfect (and ridiculous) thing? This baby's bling lifestyle. Beyonce and **Jay-Z** reportedly spent $1.5 million on designer toys and nursery furnishings. "Jay-Z bought Beyonce a solid gold handmade Ginza Tanaka rocking horse for $600,000. They've even splashed out on a $30,000 magical windmill playhouse for the garden and a mini Bugatti car, too," a source tells Britain's Star magazine. "They've bought a wardrobe packed with thousands of dollars' worth of one-off designer baby clothes." Other items reportedly include a Swarovski crystal-encrusted highchair, a chic lucite crib and gold and diamond rattles from Tiffany & Co.

Since the source of this story is Star magazine, let's take this with a grain of salt. A high chair covered in crystals? That has to cause some major diaper rash.

▶ Blue Ivy is reportedly getting a Bugatti, but just in miniature.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Burton, left, and Taylor pause on set in 1972.

Lohan moves on to Lifetime

Lohan

If there is a place for **Lindsay Lohan** (besides rehab), it's the Lifetime network — she is the embodiment of an after-school special. Luckily, it looks like the disgraced starlet has figured that out. After false starts with shots at playing **Linda Lovelace** and **Victoria Gotti**, Lohan is trying the biopic route once again to get her career restarted by signing on to play **Elizabeth Taylor** in the Lifetime Original Movie "Elizabeth & Richard: A Love Story," according to Deadline. The film will focus on Taylor's relationship with **Richard Burton**.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Evan Rachel Wood is uncovering secrets, Chloe Grace Moretz isn't impressed, Jamie Bell is having troubl, and Hugh Hefner is dealing with sick girlfriends.

▶ **@evanrachelwood:** Yes, sometimes celebrities don't wear make up. Shocking, I know. But we can get through this.

▶ **@ChloeGMoretz:** When u don't get a reply on ur text but u see him tweeting #Classy

▶ **@1jamiebell:** Dear tangled headphones in my pocket. You are making me look stupid. Now pull yourself together.

▶ **@hughhefner:** Shera was under the weather last week & this week it's Anna. Keeping my fingers crossed.

Moretz

Talking points

Perry won't do People's Choice

Katy Perry was set to take part in the People's Choice Awards Wednesday, her first public appearance since husband **Russell Brand** filed for divorce, but now she's skipping out on the show. "Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the People's Choice Awards," Perry posted to Twitter. "I want to thank you all for voting for me. Fingers crossed!"

Children actors for Pitt?

With two parents in the business, it wouldn't be surprising if one of **Brad Pitt** and **Angelina Jolie**'s six children decides to give acting a try, and Pitt says he's fine with that — with some conditions. "Whatever they want to do. Whatever makes them happy," Pitt tells Hollyscoop. "But not until they're 18."

Bieber gets paranoid

Justin Bieber is feeling the pressure of success. "Now that I'm on top, everyone wants to bring me down," Bieber tells V Magazine. "Everyone's trying to tug at me and take my spot." The best comparison Bieber can find for his current situation is Floyd Mayweather: "He's the best boxer in the world. Now he is a champion," he says. "Every time he goes to a fight now, people are like, 'He's going to lose this time.'"

▶ Snoop was busted for weed. Shocking, but true.

Oh, you don't say?

Snoop Dogg was arrested for marijuana possession in Texas when a police dog sniffed out some weed on his tour bus recently, according to TMZ. Law enforcement officials say the discovery came during a routine border patrol stop and that the rapper was issued a citation for misdemeanor possession and released. Snoop has a prescription for pot in California, but that might not mean much in Texas.

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Curves and leather for Wednesday

1. Tim Gunn — along with JD Roth and Tiffanie Davis — made it work at the TCA press tour on Monday, where he was promoting his new show, "The Revolution."

2. Hello, little black dress. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" star Rooney Mara attended the film's premiere in Rome on Monday.

3. Also at the Film Critics Circle awards: Viola Davis and her amazing one-shoulder dress.

4. Because everyone's day could use a little Marky Mark action: Mark Wahlberg visited the "Late Night With Jimmy Fallon" on Monday.

5. Holy curves! Dolly Parton and Queen Latifah attended the premiere of their new film, "Joyful Noise," at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood on Monday night.

6. It's awards season, so get used to seeing these two: Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt attended the 2011 New York Film Critics Circle awards Monday night.

1: FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES
2: ERNESTO RUSCIO/GETTY IMAGES
3, 6: STEPHEN LOVEKIN/GETTY IMAGES
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Chelsea Handler, from a different point of view

The comedian-talk show host-author adds sitcom star to her résumé in 'Are You There, Chelsea?' New comedy is based on her bold and boozy life, but is less angry

In "Are You There, Chelsea?" — the new sitcom based on Chelsea Handler's best-selling books — Laura Prepon plays Chelsea Handler and Chelsea Handler plays her sister Sloan. In real life, she isn't actually named Sloan — but that was changed, the comedian says, "for legal reasons, so that my own family can't sue me." Got that?

"I've been living this life for a long time, and I'm over myself. And it's a pleasure to play my sister, because everything I've been accusing her of my whole life, I can now re-enact before her eyes. She's thrilled, surprisingly," Handler said while promoting the sitcom at the Television Critics Association press tour in Pasadena, Calif., last week. "But, yeah. It's a lot more fun for me to play her than it would be to play myself. It's a lot more challenging anyway."

"Challenging" is a good word to describe the sitcom and its place on broadcast television — like most of Handler's material, the pilot is heavy on raunchy sex jokes and references to drinking. Drinking a lot. The title of the show, in fact, used to be "Are You There, Vodka?" "Well, some people like tequila, you know. Some people like beer. Not everybody likes vodka," Prepon joked about the title change.

"We don't want to discriminate," Handler added, then more seriously said, "We just thought 'Are You There, Chelsea?' is a really kind of play on 'Am I there? What am I thinking?'"

That's exactly what Chelsea asks herself in the pilot, which opens with the character getting a DUI and realizing she's got to make some changes. "You realize there are some consequences to things that you do," Prepon said. "[Chelsea] is ballsy and brash and not PC, and people are gonna love that about her, because I think that people relate to flawed characters. You know, nobody's perfect."

AMBER RAY
amber.ray@metro.us

TCA diary

The Television Critics Association press tour, a meeting of journalists and networks to preview new and returning series, kicked off Friday. Follow Amber on Twitter at @amberatmetro and visit www.metro.us/tv for more TCA updates.

How real-to-life is "Chelsea"?

"I was probably angrier than she is in the show, which we thought wasn't palatable," Handler said of

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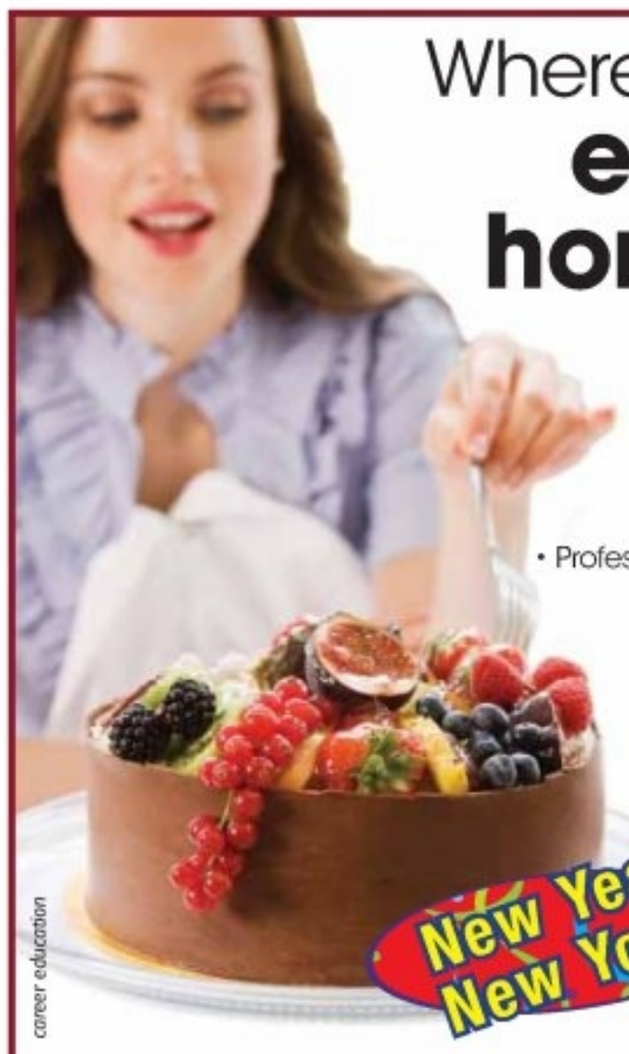

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▶ Chelsea Handler, left, and Laura Prepon spoke about their new sitcom, "Are You There, Chelsea?", at the TCA press tour. The show premieres tonight at 8:30 on NBC.

sitcom's Chelsea.

▶ "I went through my 20s in a way that not a lot of people do. I kind of barreled through them with no rhyme or reason or repercussions for anything. And so there's definitely an essence of that. She's not gonna be a caricature of me. We all wanted to give Laura license to make the character as great as she could, and she has."

TV watch list

FRED NORRIS/THE CW

▶ Austin Nichols and Sophia Bush star in "One Tree Hill."

'One Tree Hill'

DRAMA. The Southern-set soap opera returns for its final season, now following the growing families of Brooke and Julian and Haley and Nathan. But don't worry — we'll find out what Lucas has been up to as well, when original cast member Chad Michael Murray returns for a final farewell later this season. **8 p.m., The CW**

'People's Choice Awards'

SPECIAL. "The Big Bang Theory" star Kaley Cuoco hosts this you-pick-it awards show, featuring a very "Harry Potter"—heavy list of nominees and, oh look — nods for Kaley Cuoco and "The Big Bang Theory," too. **9 p.m., CBS** ● AMBER RAY

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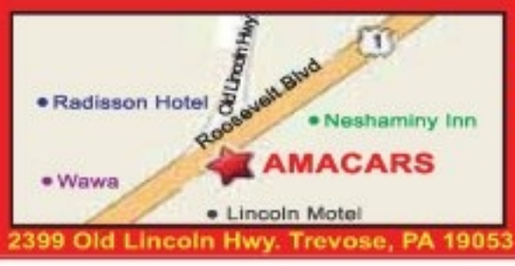

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Once branded an heir to Sir Laurence Olivier, Kenneth Branagh makes it literal, playing the actor in 'My Week With Marilyn' It's already earned him a Golden Globe nomination

From Olivier to Oscar?

COURTESY OF THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

▶ Kenneth Branagh makes for a perturbed Laurence Olivier in "My Week with Marilyn."

As we sit down for our interview, Kenneth Branagh — recently nominated for a Golden Globe for his portrayal of Sir Laurence Olivier in "My Week with Marylin" — pours himself a cup of coffee and promptly apologizes. "I discovered on films that if I have too many [cups of coffee] ... I would find that 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I'll be f–ing demented," he says. "I usually just have one in the morning. But this is my deciding to be a bit fast and loose this afternoon."

Branagh has plenty of reasons to need to keep his energy up, of course. As awards season gets under way, Branagh has been racking up accolades for his work as Olivier, including the Globe nomination as well as nominations from the Screen Actors Guild and several critics' groups. Plus, he's got the return of his TV series, "Wallander," and more directing to consider, though he is decidedly not directing the sequel to "Thor."

Taking on a role like Laurence Olivier, how did you go about making an impact with him but still presenting him as a human being?

The funny thing is that, several people have told me they know Marilyn mostly from the iconic looks — you'll find wherever there is a montage of cinema images, your seven go-to images that say the history of cinema, and Monroe is one of them — yet they don't necessarily know the movies, and I think that's even more true of Olivier, where he's a name for some. People aren't necessarily aware of his work beyond that. So it was the image and the sort of institution that is Laurence Olivier that we had to get past with this. People have an imagined version of him and of her, and that was kind of the first thing to come to grips with, you know?

Reviews for your performance have covered a pretty wide range. Does that have to do with these preconceived notions of Olivier?

I don't know if you have this experience, but sometimes there are films that you talk about that had an enormous impact on you the first time you watched it, so much so that you might bang onto people about it and eventually you'll show it to them, and you'll see it and you really can't understand why you were so thrilled by it. And I think there is a version that people may feel about Olivier and Monroe that already is an imagined thing to which any version might not match up.

It seemed pretty clear during interviews for "Thor" you wouldn't be doing the sequel. Can you talk about that decision?

I was proud of ["Thor"] ... But it was straight back in, and I needed time away from it, I needed to have a think. The third series "Wallander," the TV series I do, was already on the cards, as well as a farce called "The Painkiller," a play I did in Belfast ... These things were already lined up, and it just wasn't going to be possible to do all of them. It was a timing thing and a creative freshness kind of thing."

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

'Wallander'

Branagh soon returns to TV for another series of "Wallander," starring as the Swedish detective popularized in a series of novels. With "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" out as well, we asked why audiences respond so strongly to murder mysteries set in Sweden:

"[Ystad, where 'Wallander' is filmed] is so moody visually, I thought well maybe that's part of the appeal," he says. "The atmosphere of the place seems to breed preoccupation with dark things."

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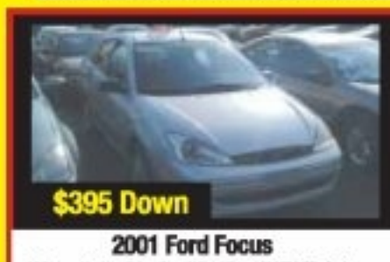
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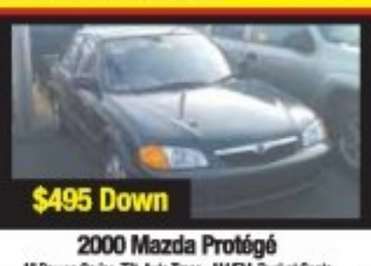
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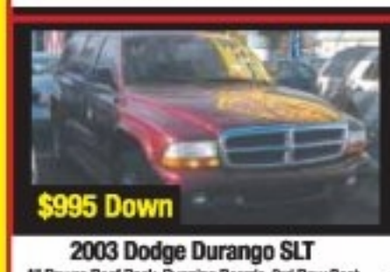
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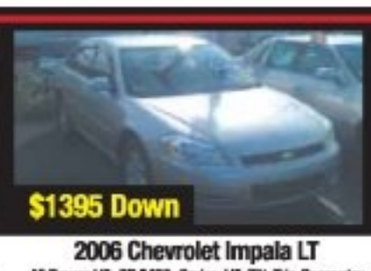
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Bell

The skin Tintin lives in

'Billy Elliot' star Jamie Bell is all grown up and now starring in animated film 'The Adventures of Tintin'

Legend has it that when Steven Spielberg offered Jamie Bell the lead role in "The Adventures of Tintin," the actor looked the Hollywood legend in the eye and said, "I'll have to think about it."

"What is true is that he said, 'If you were to be Tintin it would be about five years of your life. Are you comfortable with that?' To me, as a 16-year-old, five years was a really long time," says Bell, who's now 24. "So I didn't want to be the naive actor and say, 'OK, I'm fine with that.' I wanted to really consider it. Just sharing a Hollywood meeting with him was awesome. To me, as a child, he was otherworldly. He was a Houdini character who made dinosaurs live and boys fly on bicycles."

Bell, who first won hearts as the lead in coming-of-age dance movie "Billy Elliot," says getting to make the movie with Spielberg has "remarkable synergy" because Tintin was one of his favorite childhood stories.

Originally Bell simply enjoyed the characters, he says, but there was something special that set the stories about the young detective apart from other kids' comics.

"I felt respected, as a kid, by Tintin. That allowed me to gravitate toward him and go on his adventures. I was a very inquisitive kid," says Bell. "I used to watch a lot of political satire comedy shows. So when I read Tintin, and he was travelling around the world solving political corruption, I just knew what was going on."

RICHARD CROUSE
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Herge homage

The film grabs the spirit of the beloved books, bringing some of the intensity — and mild violence — of the original Herge books to the screen.

"If Tintin wasn't the beacon of excellence that he is, if he wasn't the guy with the correct moral compass ... I think that could be an issue," says Bell. "But because the character at the front is such a great, natural and instinctual heroic character, I think you get away with it."

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PHILLY IS THEIR STAGE

Headlong Dance Theater is looking for Philly households to host and star in productions of their latest show, 'This Town is a Mystery' Co-director Andrew Simonet on why they're moving outside the traditional venue

BIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Rucyl Mills and Andrew Simonet are hoping you have room at your place for a theater company.

Spend enough time in Philly, enough so-sticky summers and frozen Januarys, and — if you're doing it right — you'll come to the same humbling conclusion as Andrew Simonet: You know very little about this place. You know very little about the mysterious people who disappear every evening into this city's compact row homes and converted lofts, into its tired old brownstones and sleek new condos.

But while most of us will shuffle home tonight without giving much thought to these strangers and even stranger, Simonet wants a peek inside. His latest project with Headlong Dance Theater, "This Town is a Mystery," is looking to invade Philly households, turning residents into performers and audiences into acquaintances.

"We look at things in a different way when we perform — we learn about ourselves. In this case we learn about your home: the space of your home, the universe of your home," says Simonet, a co-director and founder of the Philly-based company. "I feel like every home is its own universe with its own system, its own gravity."

The criteria to apply is simple: Everyone must be willing to rehearse, then host a post-performance dinner after the show, which will take place in September. Space restrictions, children, uncooperative cats and that guy on the couch are not only welcome, but encouraged. Headlong's team — including sound and video designer Rucyl Mills, a member of the late Philly hip-hop outfit The Goats — will take care of creating performers out of roommates, as well as the logistics of staging a professional show in a living space.

"We're looking for households — and by that, we mean people who live together and eat meals together. You have to share a fridge," says Simonet. "Basically, when you hear about this, does this excite you? Then, you are the right person. "

MONICA WEYMOUTH
monica.weymouth@metro.us

How to apply

Think your household might be a fit? Visit www.thistownisamystery.com to fill out an application, or call Headlong Dance Theater at 215-545-9195.

Not picked?

If you aren't chosen for one of the official performances, Headlong still wants you to open your doors. They'll provide a "Do-It-Yourself-With-Headlong" kit to help your household stage a show.

Quoted

"We look at things in a different way when we perform — we learn about ourselves. In this case, we learn about your home: the space of your home, the universe of your home." ANDREW SIMONET

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mytechnology

The undiscovered country of 2012

- The games and gadgets you'll be after in the new year
- A few hints about what we can expect in the iPad 3

NEW IN THE NEW YEAR

▶ The PlayStation Vita arrives Feb. 22.

Shakespeare coined the term "undiscovered country" to refer to death. "Star Trek," inexplicably, changed it to refer to peace. So whatever. Now it refers to the future, particularly the future of gaming in the coming year. Let's gaze into that crystal ball and see what 2012 will bring to our favorite pastime: gaming.

PlayStation Vita
Release date: Feb. 22
While the PSP wasn't a runaway success like the DS, it still moved a ton of units. The forthcoming PSV will up the ante by offering experiences that almost rival those found on a PS3 or Xbox 360. The new portable also boasts front and back touchscreens, 3G functionality, dual analog sticks and one of the prettiest displays in all the tech-o-sphere. Oh yeah. It also launches with a new "Uncharted" game. May as well get that wallet out now.

iPad 3
Release date: February or summer — or who knows
The current rumor is that the third iPad will be released to commemorate Steve Jobs' birthday on Feb. 24. Rumors also indicate the tablet will be 10 times the speed, feature eight cameras and communicate with alien life. Yeah. People write a lot of crazy stuff about Apple products. It's safe to assume, though, it will have a better screen, faster processing and Siri implementation. Expect to be hearing a lot of "Siri. Run 'Angry Birds.'"

Sidescroller

LAWRENCE BONK
LAWRENCE.BONK@METRO.US

Mysterious plays

Nintendo Wii U
Release date: After June
The Wii U made a brief appearance at last year's E3 conference, but the system is still shrouded in Nintendo-branded mystery. All we know is the general "hook" of the system, which seems to marry the motion controls of the original Wii with an iPad. Soon you'll be able to stream games right to the tablet controller if your roommates hate you for clogging up the living room.

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mystyle

5 Fashion questions we're dying to have answered

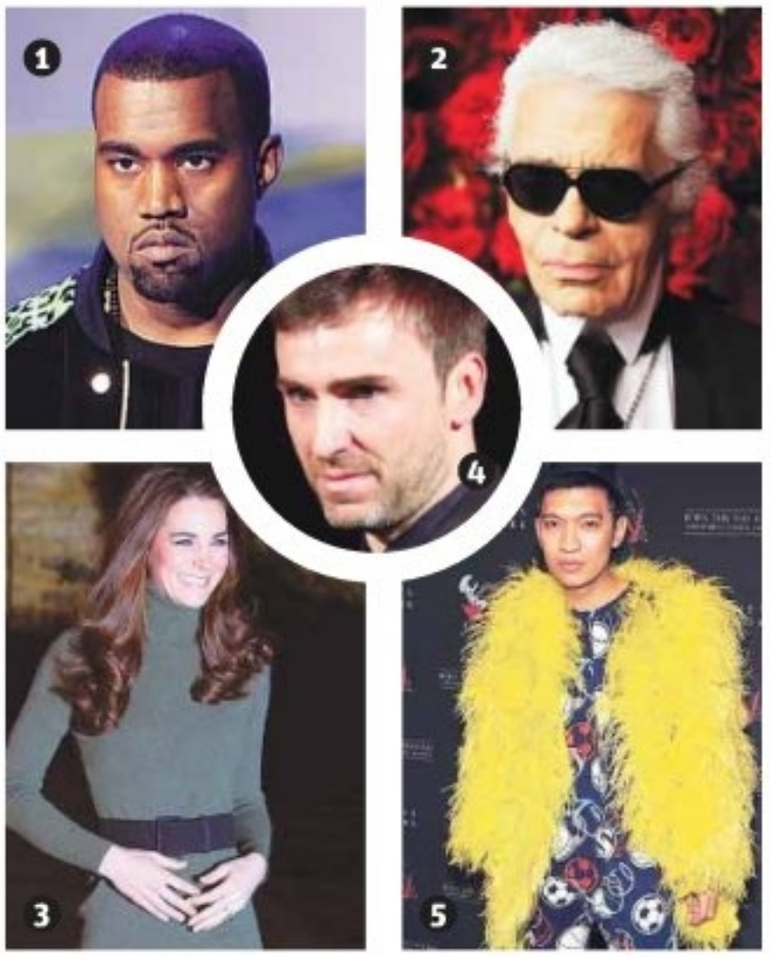
NEW IN THE NEW YEAR

1 Will Kanye conquer fashion? After last year's panned runway show, Yeezy took to Twitter to defend his rep. A few excerpts: "I moved to Rome after I left Japan and worked at Fendi for 4 months under cover" and "After doing the first LV collection I was sure I would get a second shot to create but was never given the opportunity." But will he get another opportunity to redeem himself with skeptical critics? It remains to be seen if he'll show in Paris next month.

2 Will Karl take over the world? Well if you're talking about the fashion side of things, yes. It seems like we're seeing a new Karl Lagerfeld headline every day, between the massive launch of his eponymous brand, his partnership with Net-A-Porter and his upcoming stint as our guest editor.

3 Will Kate be the new maternity style icon? Beyonce Knowles has had tabloids chronicling every roomy blouse she wears for months. But now that Blue Ivy has arrived, that game is up. Who's next? We bet it's the Duchess of Cambridge; a Kate Middleton bump is clearly in demand. A British toy company even has a pregnant Kate doll in the works after being flooded with requests. Yes, there are people who care that much.

4 Will Dior finally announce a new designer? The next round of fashion weeks is just around the corner, and there's still no confirmation on those rumors that Jil Sander's creative director Raf Simons will be taking over at the house of Christian Dior. But when an announcement of any sort happens, it will be big for a number of reasons — chiefly, the round of musical chairs it will kick off in the design career world.



5 Will the fashion blogger bubble burst? The number of fashion bloggers reaching Internet fame grows by the download. But how many can your Google Reader realistically hold? As the new crop rotates from season to season, it will be interesting to see which ones join the likes of The Sartorialist and Bryanboy to achieve real staying power.

KENYA HUNT
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

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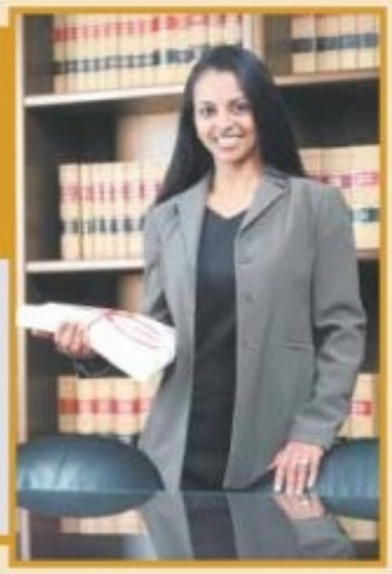
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ANDREW SOUTHAM

▶ Jillian Michaels

NEW IN THE NEW YEAR

Michaels-approved workouts for 2012

Fresh off a holiday trip to Paris, Jillian Michaels (formerly of "The Doctors" and "The Biggest Loser") spoke with us about the workouts that everyone will be going to and coming from in 2012.

MEREDITH ENGEL
meredith.engel@metro.us

For men

Survival of the fittest

"I see men doing things like Warrior Dash. They're into the mud runs. Men are really into that stuff like jumping over the fire and crawling through the mud. Group fitness events are really gaining popularity. And of course, CrossFit ... is continuing to really hold on and gain new followers. It's very cultish, but people really seem to love it. I know that boys love it, and I know a lot of women who love it, but you gotta have a warrior mentality. It's a very aggressive style of exercise."

For women

Ballet-inspired workouts

"I'm hearing about all kinds of fusion classes like Spinning with Barre, Beyond the Barre, Barre Method. I really think that's starting to gain a lot of momentum. I think the promise is flexibility, that you will have a leaner look, you'll be more functional. It's also a very feminine form of exercise in that it makes you more graceful, it improves your posture, and women want that. Ballet is the ultimate in feminine beauty. We want to be badasses, but at the same time we want that elegance."

For everyone

Anything but run-of-the-mill

Punk Rope: "It's a class around jump-roping. I believe that that's gonna emerge as something kind of fun and trendy."

Lessons in butt-kicking (beyond Tae Kwon Do): "I think people are getting into more obscure martial arts modalities, like Krav Maga or Capoeira."

Correction

In Monday's Wellbeing article "What's in store for 2012," we incorrectly stated that Jennifer Lopez is a Libra. She is in fact a Leo.

More on Michaels

- **Her workouts:** "I like bodyweight types of training like yoga or martial arts."
- **What she snacks on:** "Popchips is a company that I discovered about three years ago and I fell madly in love with them. There's no trans fat, no artificial coloring, no artificial flavors, no MSG, nothing bad. It's a such a great solution for people that don't want to give up foods that taste good. This is America, you know what I mean? We want our cheeseburgers. We want options that taste great that aren't rabbit food. Popchips is a great solution."

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— Mark Melrose, DO, is a board-certified emergency physician at Urgent Care Manhattan. E-mail him your questions at askdrmark@metro.us.

One week into 2012, you've likely stumbled on some of your resolutions. Here are some ideas for personal remodeling that are slow but sure ways to a healthier lifestyle:

Eating and drinking: Start a healthier diet and lose weight by moderating portion size. You don't have to clean your plate! Eat more fish, poultry, vegetables and whole grains while limiting red meats, bread, butter and desserts. Drink six to eight 12 oz. glasses of water daily, and snack on fresh fruit or nuts. If you lose one pound every two weeks, come 2013 you'll be more than 20 pounds lighter!

Sleep and stress: There is no such thing as catching up on sleep, so commit yourself to eight hours nightly. Your body needs sleep to restore itself both physically and mentally, and the stress of long-term fatigue will impair your ability to cope with the day-to-day challenges of work, school and relationships.

Exercise: Training for an event a few months off is a great way to inspire regular exercise and target your efforts towards achieving something tangible (a 10K race, a long-distance bike ride, etc.) rather than pursuing an abstract resolution like "I want to be in better shape."

Relationships: Look for "win-win" solutions to disagreements. Try resolving differences with family members in the same way you would with co-workers or your boss. Yelling, making verbal attacks, drawing a line in the sand or digging your heels in are not acceptable at work, nor should they be at home. Be a good listener — and when someone says something crazy, resist the temptation to flip that person off. Instead, say, "I'll consider that" and mull over a reasonable answer.

Health maintenance: Schedule a checkup with your primary care doctor. Try to schedule the first appointment of the day so you don't have to wait. High blood pressure, diabetes and high cholesterol all start sometime, and they are all leading causes of illness and disability if undetected over time.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome.

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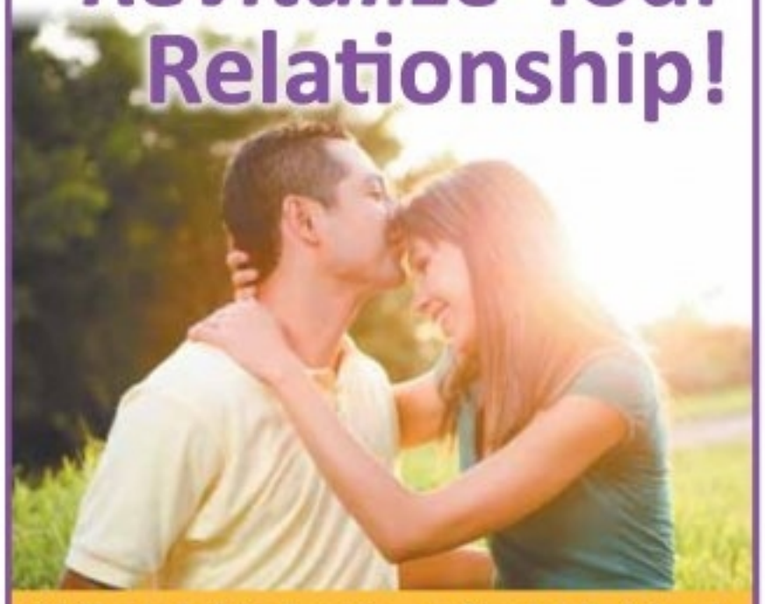
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Letters

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Military cuts? Not exactly ...

While the Obama administration's new Defense Guidance document has been portrayed as moving to significant cuts in the Pentagon budget, the president himself tells a starkly different story. He said: "Over the next 10 years, the growth in the defense budget will slow, but the fact of the matter is this — it will still grow." We will continue to spend $2.1 million every minute of every day on an unethical and unsustainable military policy. Nearly every other area of federal spending — investing in jobs, health care, housing and education has been cut, putting real security more at risk. Investment in people and communities, increased reliance on diplomacy, and supporting sustainable human security by meeting human needs at home and abroad is what will ultimately make our world more safe and stable.

MARLENA SANTOYO, PHILADELPHIA

Give us a break on Romney!

RE: "ROMNEY RIVALS' TIME RUNNING OUT": We are only at the start of these elections, and all you do is focus on one candidate and talk about predictions. How about we put away our crystal balls and do some actual reporting on the candidates. I'll decide who wins. You, as a citizen, will decide who wins. Mr./Mrs. Fortune teller, as good as they may be, has no place here. Please, just report on some candidates with some information about them.

COLLIN TUKAY, VIA E-MAIL

Blame the Democrats

RE: "WHO TO BLAME FOR OUR WOES?": Most of the liberals in this country have either a very convenient or non existent memory when it comes to "blame."
If you are referring to TARP or Fannie Mae and Freddy Mac as the cause of our financial woes let me remind you they were orchestrated under Democrat leadership. As for TARP, this became a slush fund for the Democrats who took over administering the funds from a lame duck President Bush only months away from his termination. TARP was orchestrated by a Democrat Federal Reserve Chariman and the then candidate Barack Hussein Obama was praised by the media for taking charge in White House meetings to push this agenda through to completion.

NICKY CAPOLUPO, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Don't let too much time elapse before correcting a business arrangement that needs some readjustment. The calendar isn't your ally.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Consistency is a must if you hope to achieve an important objective. If you do things in fits and starts, it might look impressive but could prove to be unproductive.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Make every effort to perform a distasteful assignment properly, the first time around. If you don't, you'll only drag it out by having to rework it over and over until you get it right.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** There may be a good reason why companions will resist using your methods or procedures to accomplish a joint endeavor. Before getting upset, find out why they are opposed.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You shouldn't have any trouble achieving your goals, but you could have a problem going after something that you think you want but really don't.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Just because someone has a title, it doesn't automatically make him or her smarter than you. Don't be intimidated by rank or position.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Although everything might not be optimum or exactly as you'd like, things in general should go rather well for you. Be grateful for whatever you can accomplish or achieve.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** The only way you're going to get any concessions from others is to first show that you're prepared to make some compromises. It's a give-and-take world.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Unless duties and responsibilities are equally distributed among co-workers, friction could quickly arise. In a perfect world, each person would see how much she or he could do, not how little they can get away with.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** A friend won't appreciate it if you make light of his or her problems, because the matter is extremely serious to them. Treat it with sensitivity and concern.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Do what you can, and don't expect anything from yourself that you know you won't be able to deliver. If your hopes are unrealistic, you'll be asking for disappointment.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You're not likely to have much luck trying to sell something that you don't believe in, because your apathy will show. Don't peddle a useless item.

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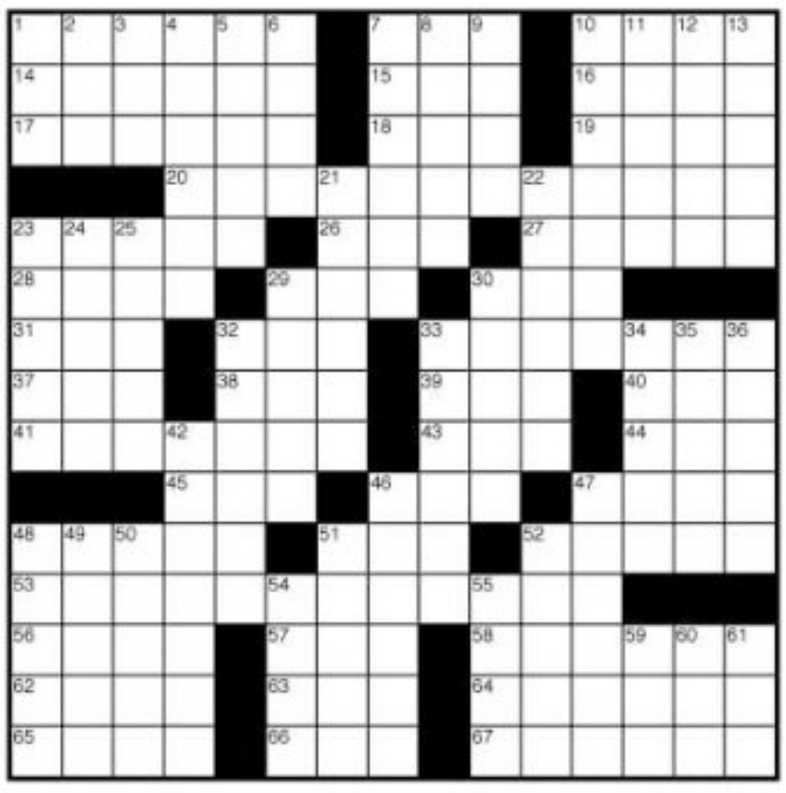
Across
1 Thor's weapon
7 Central
10 Model's asset
14 Sharp cheese
15 "__ to the West Wind"
16 Running track
17 Avoids, as an issue
18 Carpet pile
19 Not frequent
20 Awesome
23 Selflessly
26 Letter after Pi
27 NBA coach Pat __
28 La femme
29 Dell or Acer wares
30 L-o-n-g time
31 Film speed ind.
32 Cry of disgust
33 Arrogant
37 Sleep-stage acronym
38 Miner's load
39 UFO crew
40 Common pronoun
41 Locker item
43 Katharine __ Bates
44 Felt boot
45 Compete at auction
46 Stimpy's buddy
47 Juicy pear
48 Vacuum tube
51 Huge racket
52 Tasty carbohydrate
53 Vitamin C (2 wds.)
56 Kind of spirit
57 Forum hello
58 Fell behind
62 Della Street's penner
63 Tavern
64 Misgiving
65 John, in Ireland
66 USN officer
67 Frontier

Down
1 PM units
2 Swell, in space (hyph.)
3 2001, to Augustus
4 Sculptor's medium
5 Gateway
6 Thorny shrub
7 Calendar pages
8 Oregon neighbor
9 Pt. of LAPD
10 Branching off
11 Take advantage of
12 Chili con __
13 Poem of lament
21 Sagittarius
22 Stir up, as interest
23 Draws closer to
24 Merlin __ of the NFL
25 Hold responsible
29 Fixed potatoes
30 Gnawed away
32 Slower
33 Montana capital
34 Flu shots
35 Clink glasses
36 Desert plant
42 Insect segment
46 Kitchen gizmos
47 Nag, nag, nag
48 Sticky fruits
49 Grenoble's river
50 Florida town
51 Sofa
52 Mover's challenge
54 Bunyan's ox
55 Nightspot
59 Traipse about
60 WNW opposite
61 "__ Rosenkavalier"



9			2		6	7		
	2		8	4				5
			3				1	9
8	4	9	7					
					4	8	7	6
1	3				7			
5				3	2		9	
		8	6		1			7

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

5	9	6	2	4			1	7
1								
	4	7					2	
3							9	
2			1		5			6
	6							1
	7					1	3	
								9
6	1			8	2	7	5	4

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

S	K	I	P	■	P	A	I	N	S	■	P	O	E	T
A	U	D	I	■	E	N	L	A	I	■	A	S	T	A
A	D	E	S	■	R	E	L	I	T	■	S	L	A	M
R	U	S	T	I	C	■	■	V	A	M	O	O	S	E
■	■	■	O	B	I	■	E	E	R	Y	■	■	■	■
B	O	W	L	O	V	E	R	■	■	T	R	A	C	E
A	M	I	■	■	A	H	S	■	■	H	O	B	O	S
T	A	S	S	E	L	S	■	B	A	S	E	H	I	T
I	H	E	A	R	■	■	P	E	C	■	■	O	L	E
K	A	R	M	A	■	■	R	E	H	E	A	R	S	E
■	■	■	S	T	A	Y	■	I	S	T	■	■	■	■
D	I	P	P	E	R	S	■	■	L	A	T	E	L	Y
H	O	E	R	■	I	N	T	E	L	■	E	L	I	E
O	N	T	O	■	T	E	A	S	E	■	S	H	E	A
W	A	S	P	■	E	R	I	C	S	■	T	I	N	S

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3

'Pen pal

Phils eyeing Wood?

According to CSNPhilly.com, the Phillies are interested in 34-year-old relief pitcher Kerry Wood. He went 3-5 with a 3.35 ERA for the Cubs last season. Wood was shut down in September after injuring his left knee.

METRO

Orange crush

Flyers take care of Hurricanes

The Flyers earned a 2-1 win yesterday over Carolina.

Brayden Schenn and Sean Couturier lit the lamp, while Sergei Bobrovsky turned away 35-of-36 shots faced in net.

Next up is a trip to New York tomorrow to face the Islanders (7 p.m., CSN).

Ho-hum, another blowout victory

Sixers rout Kings, stretch winning streak to six games • Record fifth 20-point victory of the season • Brand leads with 21 points, 10 boards

Last night looked like a trap game for the Sixers.

They were playing on back-to-back nights, the Wells Fargo Center was empty again and a showdown tonight with the Knicks loomed.

Nope.

The Sixers blew the doors off the Kings, 112-85, improving their division-leading record to 7-2. By the time the fourth quarter rolled around, the fans were chanting for seldom-used Temple rookie Lavoy Allen.

"You're always concerned when you have a ton of home games, about there being a drop off in your play," coach Doug Collins said. "Sometimes you get home and you get a little comfortable. I thought our guys were incredibly professional."

And dominant. The Sixers have won six straight games, the team's longest winning streak since a seven-game burst in January 2009. But it's not just the simple victories that have them brimming with confidence. It's the blowout fashion in which they're getting it done.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Evan Turner looks for an opening last night against the Kings. Turner finished with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

The Sixers have won five games by at least 20 points and have the NBA's best point-differential.

Elton Brand recorded his first double-double of the season, leading the way with 21 points, 10 rebounds and three blocks — two of which came at the expense of DeMarcus Cousins.

"That's the EB [Elton Brand] we had last year, and we're going to need him," Collins said.

Now, Collins' bunch travels to New York City's Madison Square Garden to put their winning streak on the line against a Knicks team that was supposed to challenge for the Atlantic Division title.

ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

What went right ...

1 Backup plan. Spencer Hawes' back injury isn't going away. Nikola Vucevic, the Sixers' first-round pick this season, is going to be relied upon as a rebounder and post defender plenty. He had four pints and five rebounds in 19 minutes last night.

2 Not the Jimmer Show. College legend Jimmer Fredette has a long way to go at the NBA level. He's a poor ball-handler for his size, isn't a playmaker, gets picked on defensively and can't finish around the rim. He finished with seven points despite starting in place of Marcus Thornton.

3 Board games. Evan Turner's jumper may only be marginally improved, but his rebounding and ball-handling from the two-guard spot are special. After racking up 10 boards last night, he's now averaging 6.2 rebounds per game.

ADAM LEVITAN

Sixers notebook

Sorry, those are the breaks kiddies

The Sixers continue to be on the right side of the injury bug.

Kings leading scorer **Marcus Thornton** was scratched last night due to a thigh bruise. Earlier this season, they faced the Jazz without **Al Jefferson** (ankle), the Warriors without **Monta Ellis** (personal), the Pistons without **Rodney Stuckey** (groin) and the Pacers without **Danny Granger** (ankle).

"We talked all preseason about how this is what the season is going to be like with injuries," **Doug Collins** said. "When you play against a team that loses a key guy, you got to make sure you take advantage of that."

The Sixers were planning to use their best wing defender, **Andre Iguodala**, on Thornton.

Strange schedule: Throw out routines

Due to the condensed schedule, the Sixers played the second leg of a back-to-back-to-back last night. Players are usually creatures of habit, but there's no time for normal routines now.

On TV today

Sixers at NY Knicks, 7:30 p.m. (CSN)

"It's tough, preparationwise," said forward **Elton Brand**. "Thirteen years in the league and I have to feel it out."

ESPN puts Sixers at No. 1 power rating

ESPN's respected stats guru **John Hollinger** created quite a buzz yesterday afternoon when the Sixers emerged as the league's No. 1 team in his power ratings. Much of his formula is based on point differential, a category the Sixers led the NBA in heading into yesterday at plus-14.7.

Injured Hawes 'gutting it out'

Spencer Hawes' back isn't 100 percent. And playing five games in six nights this week won't help.

"I don't think he feels great. ... He's going to gut it out," Collins said.

Hawes, who hopes to play tonight) left yesterday's game with a lower back strain and rookie center **Nikola Vucevic** started the second half.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hawes

Preseason? Who needs preseason?

A normal NBA season has eight preseason games built in before the regular season even tips off. Last night was the Sixers' eighth game.

"I think a lot of the execution, you get slippage along the way because you can't practice," Collins said.

ADAM LEVITAN

Villanova searching for 'core values' in rebuilding season

Wildcats prepare for visit from No. 1 Syracuse • Team still looking for back-to-back Big East wins • Young 'Cats battling through tough year

This type of season comes along once in a while. Even for a program used to winning and going to the NCAA tournament.

It has happened at North Carolina. It has happened at Duke. It has happened at Syracuse.

Now, it's happening at Villanova.

Just three years ago, the Wildcats advanced to the Final Four thanks to a coast-to-coast layup by Scottie Reynolds.

Heading into tonight's clash against No. 1 Syracuse at the Wells Fargo Center, Villanova is a mere 8-8 and 1-3 in the Big East. Until Sunday's 87-71 win over DePaul, the Wildcats had dropped their first three Big East games for the first time since joining the league in 1980-81.

"We're a struggling team," Wright said after a frustrating 17-point home loss to South Florida last Thursday. "We have to battle through this and get better. We know we have to answer to outsiders. But that doesn't really bother us. We hear it, but we're going to evaluate ourselves based on our core values."

How did the Wildcats get here?

Well, there are always reasons. How about transfers, like guard Malcolm Grant, going to Miami. Or losing key seniors, such as Corey Fisher, Corey Stokes and Antonio Pena. And missing incoming players, like freshman Ty Johnson, who broke his foot last summer and is just getting back to 100 percent.

Villanova doesn't have one scholarship senior, so juniors such as Maalik Wayns and Mouphtaou Yarou have been thrust in leadership roles earlier than anticipated.

"Something good will happen for this team," Wayns said. "You have to take the good with the bad. You can't let yourself get too high or too low. You have to try and stay on an even keel and keep working."

ANDY JASNER
sports@metro.us

Quoted

"There's a lot of areas we have to improve on. It's where we are. We'd certainly rather not be in this situation."
JAY WRIGHT, 'NOVA COACH

On TV today

Syracuse at Villanova, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Freshman Darrun Hilliard and the young Wildcats need to mature quickly if they expect to compete in Big East.

PHILADELPHIA BIG 5

La Salle

- **Explorers have jumped out to 12-4 start** and are tied for first in A-10 standings with a 2-0 mark.
- La Salle was **riding five-game winning streak** entering play last night (vs. Penn, ended late) following 82-75 win over UMass.
- **What to watch ...** La Salle visits the Liacouras Center Jan. 18 to battle Temple.

Temple

- **Owls are 10-4 this season,** but 0-1 in A-10 after losing 87-77 last week vs. Dayton.
- Temple had been riding a **four-game winning streak,** including a win over then-No. 3 Duke, before loss.
- **What to watch ...** Owls face tough St. Louis team (13-3) tonight in A-10 showdown.

St. Joe's

- **Hawks own 11-5 mark this season** and 1-1 in A-10 after beating Duquesne, then losing to Charlotte.
- St. Joe's has nice **out-of-conference wins against Penn St., No. 21 Creighton and Villanova.**
- **What to watch ...** Hawks get A-10 showdown at Xavier on Jan. 18

Penn

- **Quakers were 7-8 entering play last night** as they get ready for their Ivy opener at Columbia (Jan. 13).
- Penn has endured grueling **out-of-conference slate, including losses to Duke, Pittsburgh and UCLA.**
- **What to watch ...** Aside from Friday's Ivy opener, Penn gets St. Joe's at The Palestra (Jan. 21).

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SOUTH JERSEY - PHILADELPHIA

Spagnuolo speculation runs wild

The Steve Spagnuolo watch took another intriguing turn thanks to the NFL Network.

A report broke yesterday morning that Spagnuolo was set to rejoin Andy Reid's coaching staff, either as defensive coordinator or as an assistant alongside Juan Castillo.

"Spagnuolo, let go by the St. Louis Rams last week, is expected to be back in Philadelphia by the end of the week," NFL Network's Jason La Canfora wrote.

However, La Canfora later clarified his report to CSNPhilly by saying that he meant that Spagnuolo was only expected to meet with the Eagles.

▶ Spagnuolo
GETTY IMAGES

There is no deal in place, at least that anyone has reported, and Reid is on vacation. The Eagles offered no comment on the speculation. METRO

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Notices

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Articles of Incorporation Notice is hereby given that Articles of incorporation have been filed with the Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 06/10/2011 under the Domestic Non-profit Corporation Law, for C.C.F.I., INC., and address of the registered office is 1515 Cherry St , Philadelphia, Pa 19102

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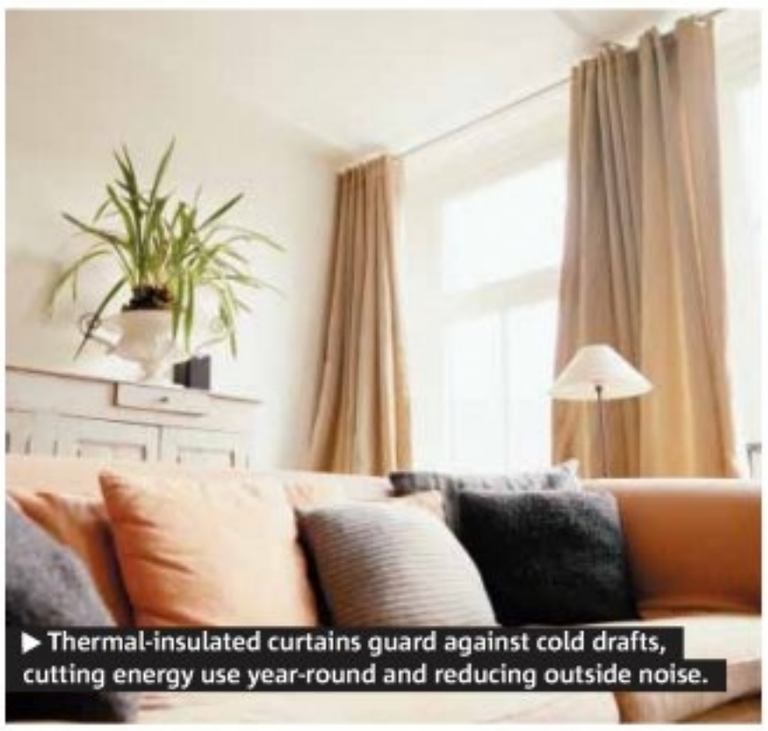
Get cozy

Easy fixes to insulate your home without calling a contractor 'Keep the cold out and the style in'

With icy weather now long overdue, it's time to make your nest cozier. There's no need to call in a professional either. Whether you own or rent, here are some fixes to do yourself to lower your heating bills and carbon footprint. First up, identify trouble spots. That's as simple as moving around your home and examining openings for draughts. Then take action with some practical and design-savvy ways to prevent the loss of heat.

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us



▶ Thermal-insulated curtains guard against cold drafts, cutting energy use year-round and reducing outside noise.

Tip 1:

Practical

"The single biggest cause of a cold house is infiltration of air," says Rose Ann Humphrey of Boston design studio Home Life (www.home-life.com). "You must cut down on infiltration around windows, doors and other openings." That includes pet doors, too. "Buy weather stripping for doors along sides and the top," says Humphrey. "And buy special stripping to insulate at the bottom of the door. You can buy rope like putty, a semi-rigid product, for around windows or other air leaks. Afterwards, light a match to test if air is still coming into your home."

Global Trademark Tools Under the Door Dual Draft Stopper, $19, www.wayfair.com

Tip 2:

Pretty

New York based Designer Courtney Cachet (www.courtneycachet.com) pays attention to heat-sucking windows via heavy drapes and honeycomb-style insulating blinds. "Add heavier curtains in the winter. You'll be surprised how thermal window treatments can keep a room much warmer. These were not the most attractive, but they have come a long way. Keep the cold out and the style in," she says. Cachet also recommends some cover for hardwood and tile floors. "Use rugs on bare floors," she says. "A lot of people have hardwood floors above a poorly insulated basement. An area rug does a great job of keeping your feet warmer. A nice shag rug looks great and feels cozy."

Thermalogic Weathermate Insulated Curtains, $55, www.wayfair.com

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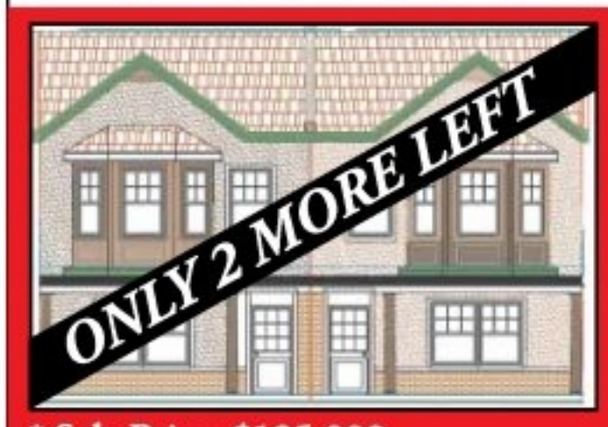

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On the move in 2012

- Looking to relocate?
- These neighborhoods are only getting better in the year ahead

Does your new year mean new digs? We poked around and found some of the most exciting, most liveable and on-the-rise 'hoods for a variety of different Philadelphians.

Quoted

"We find it is more interesting to be in a neighborhood that is evolving and we like to think we are a part of that positive change."
PETE LANGWAY,
CO-OWNER OF BARCADE

For the artist:

East Passyunk Avenue

This has been a budding hot spot for the last several years, and now it's ripe with artisan boutiques, galleries and a world of delicious food. It's all about diversity in this neighborhood that pairs old South Philly history and charm with trendy small businesses to make an impressive and tight-knit community. **What the experts say**: "On one block alone, you can have sushi, margaritas, foie gras, very traditional or modern Italian, honey made from bees living on the roof across the street, homemade limoncello, authentic Mexican and dessert from a gelateria," says Renee Gilinger, executive director of East Passyunk Avenue Business Improvement District.

For the trailblazers:

Fishtown

Fishtown is close enough to Center City, but maintains its own personality. There's no need to commute downtown every time you want to go out, because this neighborhood has a fair share of gastropubs, happy hours, coffee shops and music venues to keep you busy. And more are on the way: East Girard Avenue is buzzing with new businesses and those about to open their doors. **What the experts say:** "We find it is more interesting to be in a neighborhood that is evolving and we like to think we are a part of that positive change," says Pete Langway, co-owner of Barcade.

▶ The Pub on Passyunk East is a neighborhood mainstay.

▶ Part bar, part arcade, Barcade is one of the many new hot spots to set up shop off East Girard Avenue.

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30 yr jumbo	4.250	0.000	$166	20%	4.288
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For the young professional:

Graduate Hospital

If you're looking for something just outside the bustle and price tag of Center City, check out the GradHo area. Your new go-tos: The Sidecar Bar and Grille — now with a second floor — and the Beauty Shop Cafe, a favorite for caffeine fixes.

What the experts say: "Graduate Hospital has maintained a strong pull on young professionals purely because a buyer can get more house than they could for a more centrally located condo," says Kate Vail, a real estate agent at Coldwell Banker Preferred.

JULIA WEST
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▶ The Graduate Hospital area attracts young professionals.

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